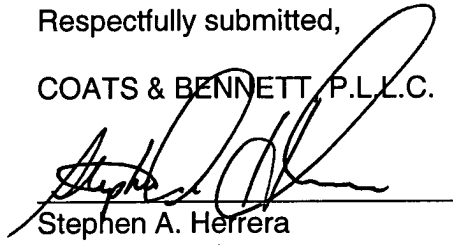


REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that dependent claims 2, 30, and 41 contained allowable subject matter. Therefore, Applicants have amended the independent claims 1, 24, and 40 to include the limitations of allowed claims 2, 30, and 41, respectively. The amendments render all §102 and §103 rejections to the independent claims moot. In light of the amendments, Applicants respectfully request the allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

COATS & BENNETT, P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen A. Herrera", is written over a horizontal line.

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